

Message Text

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ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-02 INRE-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SAM-01 /060 W

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O R 061540Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO AMEMBASSY RIYADH NIACT IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 0039

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS NIACT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV NIACT IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS CAIRO 8885

NSCR FOR GENERAL SCOWCROFT AND NESSEN

E.O. 11652: /A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: TRANSCRIPT OF SADAT-KISSINGER PRESS CONFERENCE

REF: BELGRADE 5505

FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPT OF PRESS CONFERENCE CONDUCTED BY
PRESIDENT SADAT AND SECRETARY KISSINGER AFTER THEIR
MEETING ON NOVEMBER 6, 1974: QUOTE

QUESTION: ARE YOU OPTIMISTIC ABOUT THE TALKS?

SADAT: I HAVE PREPARED A STATEMENT. YOU KNOW I HAVE A
VERY NASTY COLD. I HAVE PREPARED A STATEMENT AND AFTER
THAT.....

Q - MR. PRESIDENT, WOULD YOU SPEAK A BIT LOUDER?

S-WHAT ABOUT MY VOICE WITH THIS COLD?

VOICE: SORRY, I HOPE YOU FEEL BETTER.

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S - VERY WELL. I AM GLAD THAT MY FRIEND DR. KISSINGER WAS ABLE TO COME AND EXCHANGE WITH ME VIEWS AND MEASURES. AS YOU WELL KNOW, I HAVE THE FULLEST CONFIDENCE IN DR. KISSINGER AND WE SUPPORT HIS CONTINUING EFFORTS FOR ACHIEVING A LASTING AND JUST PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST. WE BELIEVE THAT THE UNITED STATES CAN PLAY AN ACTIVE ROLE TOWARDS FURTHER PROGRESS IN THIS RESPECT AND I WANT TO EMPHASIZE THAT THE DOORS FOR PROGRESS ARE STILL OPEN.

Q - MR. PRESIDENT, WOULD YOU TELL US IF YOU ARE ATTEMPTING OR HAVE ATTEMPTED TO BRING ABOUT SOME KIND OF A DIALOGUE BETWEEN SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER AND THE PLO?

S - I LEAVE THIS TO DR. KISSINGER.

KISSINGER: I SIMPLY WANT TO MAKE A GENERAL STATEMENT. THE TALKS BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND MYSELF HAVE BEEN USEFUL AND CONSTRUCTIVE AS ALWAYS. AS I SAID UPON ARRIVAL AT THE AIRPORT YESTERDAY THE UNITED STATES IS PREPARED TO REMAIN ACTIVELY ENGAGED IN ATTEMPTING TO BRING ABOUT A JUST AND LASTING PEACE IN THIS AREA. I EMPHASIZED ON MANY OCCASIONS OUR VIEWS WHICH CAN BE MOST EFFECTIVELY ACHIEVED BY A STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH. I AM JUST BEGINNING A TRIP THROUGH THE MIDDLE EAST AND WE WILL REMAIN IN ACTIVE AND CLOSE DIPLOMATIC CONTACT WITH ALL OF THE PARTIES TO SEE WHAT POSSIBILITIES EXIST AND TO ENCOURAGE PROGRESS WHEREVER POSSIBILITIES EXIST. I WANT TO THANK THE PRESIDENT FOR RECEIVING ME IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT HE HAS A VERY BAD COLD.

Q - MR PRESIDENT, I WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU SIR, WHAT IS YOUR JUDGEMENT AS TO HOW THE RABAT SUMMIT CONFERENCE AFFECTS THE STEP-BY-STEP NEGOTIATION PROCESS IN WHICH EGYPT HAS BEEN ENGAGED WITH THE UNITED STATES?

S - WELL, I CAN'T SEE AT ALL THAT THE RABAT CONFERENCE HAS PUT ANY BLOCK IN THIS. THE RABAT CONFERENCE HAS BEEN MAINLY FOR THE QUESTION OF PALESTINE AND IT WAS INEVITABLE THAT AT SOME TIME THE PALESTINIAN QUESTION IS GOING TO BE TACKLED AS A POLITICAL PROBLEM RATHER THAN A HUMANITARIAN PROBLEM.

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Q - DR. KISSINGER, ARE YOU OPTIMISTIC?

K - I BELIEVE THAT PROGRESS IS POSSIBLE AND WITH THE COOPERATION OF THE PARTIES WE WILL CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS AND WE BELIEVE THAT PROGRESS IS POSSIBLE.

Q - DOES THAT MEAN DR. KISSINGER THAT IS NOT POSSIBLE AT THE MOMENT?

K - NO, WE BELIEVE THAT PROGRESS IS POSSIBLE IN THE MONTHS AHEAD.

Q - MR. PRESIDENT, IS EGYPT READY TO BEGIN DISCUSSIONS WITH ISRAEL ABOUT FURTHER WITHDRAWALS IN THE SINAI WHETHER OR NOT THERE ARE SIMILAR DISCUSSIONS ON THE WEST BANK?

S - WELL, WE SHALL ALWAYS BE IN EGYPT READY TO REGAIN WHATEVER LAND WE CAN.

Q - DR. KISSINGER, LAST TIME YOU THOUGHT THE U.S. WAS CONCERNED BY JORDAN NEGOTIATING WITH ISRAEL AS REGARDS THE WEST BANK. YOU SAID THAT THIS WAS THE U.S. POINT OF VIEW. NOW THAT THE PLO IS GOING TO TAKE THIS ROLE UP, HOW DO YOU THINK THIS CAN BE RESOLVED AS REGARDS TO THE UNITED STATES?

K - WHAT MY VIEW WAS, AND IS, THAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN THAT IT WILL BE THE BEST SOLUTION AND WE NOW HAVE TO SEE THE IMPACT OF THE RECENT VISIT WITH RESPECT TO THAT PARTICULAR PROBLEM. IN MY OWN POINT OF VIEW IT HAS COMPLICATED MATTERS.

Q - MR. PRESIDENT, CAN YOU TELL US HOW YOUR DISCUSSIONS YESTERDAY WITH MR. ARAFAT AFFECT YOUR DISCUSSIONS WITH DR. KISSINGER?

S - I DON'T SEE HOW MY DISCUSSIONS WITH ARAFAT YESTERDAY AND WITH DR. KISSINGER YESTERDAY AND TODAY MAKE ANY CONTRADICTIONS. THERE IS NO CONTRADICTION.

Q - DR. KISSINGER, ARE YOU GOING TO MEET MR. YASSER ARAFAT HERE IN CAIRO?

K - NO.
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Q - WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO TAKE UP YOUR TALKS, MR. PRESIDENT?

S - WHEN - WHAT?

Q - WHEN WILL YOU HAVE ANOTHER MEETING WITH DR. KISSINGER?

S - WELL, THIS DEPENDS UPON THE MOMENTUM OF THE PROCESS IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

Q - WOULD YOU EXPECT THAT MOMENTUM TO SLOW DOWN OR CAN YOU GIVE US YOUR EXPECTATION OF WHEN THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL ON THE NEXT DISENGAGEMENT WILL BEGIN, SIR?

S - WELL, THE MOMENTUM IS CONTINUING AND IT HASN'T BEEN

HINDRED AND AS I SAID IN MY STATEMENT, THE EFFORTS OF DR.
KISSINGER IN THE NEAR FUTURE ARE NEEDED MUCH MOR THAN THEY
WERE NEEDED BEFORE.

VOICE: THANK YOU, SIR. UNQUOTE

ACTION RIYADH: ANDERSON REQUESTS COPIES OF ABOVE TRANSCRIPT
BE PROVIDED TO MEMBERS OF PRESS ACCOMPANING SECRETARY.
EILTS

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